

§ 180.175 Survival craft equipment.

(a) *General.* Each item of survival craft equipment must be of good quality, and efficient for the purpose it is intended to serve. Unless otherwise stated in this section, each item of equipment carried, whether required under this section or not, must be secured by lashings, stored in lockers, compartments, brackets, or have equivalent mounting or storage arrangements that do not:

- (1) Reduce survival craft capacity;
- (2) Reduce space available to the occupants;
- (3) Interfere with launching, recovery, or rescue operations; or
- (4) Adversely affect seaworthiness of the survival craft.

(b) *Inflatable liferafts.* Each inflatable liferaft must have one of the following equipment packs as shown by the markings on its container:

- (1) Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) B Pack; or
- (2) SOLAS A Pack.

(c) *Inflatable buoyant apparatus.* Each inflatable buoyant apparatus must be equipped in accordance with the manufacturer's approved servicing manual.

(d) *Life floats.* Each life float must be fitted with a lifeline, pendants, two paddles, a painter, and a light.

(e) *Buoyant apparatus.* Each buoyant apparatus must be fitted with a lifeline, pendants, a painter, and a light.

(f) *Equipment specifications for life floats and buoyant apparatus.* The equipment required for life floats and buoyant apparatus must meet the following specifications:

(1) *Lifeline and pendants.* The lifeline and pendants must be as furnished by the manufacturer with the approved life float or buoyant apparatus. Replacement lifelines and pendants must meet the requirements in Subpart 160.010 of this chapter.

(2) *Paddle.* Each paddle must be of at least 1,220 millimeters (4 feet) in length, lashed to the life float to which it belongs and buoyant.

(3) *Painter.* The painter must:

- (i) Be of at least 30.5 meters (100 feet) in length, but not less than 3 times the distance between the deck where the life float or buoyant apparatus it serves is stowed and the lowest load waterline of the vessel;

(ii) Have a breaking strength of at least 680 kilograms (1,500 pounds), except that if the capacity of the life float or buoyant apparatus is 50 persons or more, the breaking strength must be at least 1,360 kilograms (3,000 pounds);

(iii) Be of a dark color if synthetic, or of a type certified to be resistant to deterioration from ultraviolet light; and

(iv) Be stowed in such a way that it runs out freely when the life float or buoyant apparatus floats away from a sinking vessel.

(4) *Light.* The light must be a floating waterlight approved under approval series 161.010 or other standard specified by the Commandant. The floating waterlight must be attached around the body of the life float or buoyant apparatus by a 10 mm (3/8 inch) lanyard, resistant to deterioration from ultraviolet light, and at least 5.5 meters (18 feet) in length.

(g) *Other survival craft.* If survival craft other than inflatable liferafts, life floats, inflatable buoyant apparatus, and buoyant apparatus are carried on the vessel, such as lifeboats or rigid liferafts, they must be installed, arranged, and equipped as required under subchapter H (Passenger Vessels) of this chapter for passenger vessels on the same route.

[CGD 85-080, 61 FR 975, Jan. 10, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 51357, Sept. 30, 1997]

Subpart E—Number and Type of Survival Craft

§ 180.200 Survival craft—general.

(a) Each survival craft required on a vessel by this part must meet one of the following:

(1) For an inflatable liferaft—Approved under approval series 160.151 or other standard specified by the Commandant, with the applicable equipment pack, as determined by the cognizant OCMI. Each inflatable liferaft required on a vessel by this part must have a capacity of 6 persons or more. Inflatable liferafts may be substituted for inflatable buoyant apparatus or life floats required under this section;

(2) For a life float—Approved under approval series 160.027 or other standard specified by the Commandant.

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Buoyant apparatus may be used to meet requirements for life floats if the buoyant apparatus was installed on board the vessel on or before March 11, 1996, and if the buoyant apparatus remains in good and serviceable condition;

(3) For an inflatable buoyant apparatus—Approved under approval series 160.010 or other standard specified by the Commandant. Inflatable buoyant apparatus may be substituted for life floats required under this section.

(4) For a buoyant apparatus—Approved under approval series 160.010 or other standard specified by the Commandant. An existing buoyant apparatus may not be used to satisfy the re-

quirements for life floats on existing vessels wishing to upgrade the total number of passengers carried on an oceans route.

(b) If the vessel carries a small boat or boats, the capacity of these boats may be counted toward life float capacity required by this part. Such boats must meet the requirements for safe loading and flotation in 33 CFR part 183, and must meet the stowage, launching, and equipment requirements in this part for the survival craft they replace.

(c) A summary of survival craft requirements is provided in Table 180.200(c).

TABLE 180.200(c)

Route	Survival craft requirements
Oceans	(a) cold water ¹ —100% IBA—§ 180.202(a)(1). (i) w/subdivision ² —100% LF—§ 180.202(a)(2). (b) warm water ³ —67% IBA ⁴ —§ 180.202(b).
Coastwise	(a) wood vsls in cold water. (i) 67% IBA—§ 180.204(a)(1). (ii) w/subdivision—100% LF—§ 180.204(a)(2). (b) nonwood and vsls operating in warm water. (i) 100% LF—§ 180.204 (b) and (c). (c) within three miles of shore. (i) w/o subdivision—100% LF—§ 180.204(d)(1). (ii) w/subdivision—50% LF—§ 180.204(d)(2). (iii) w/float free 406 MHz EPIRB—50% LF—§ 180.204(d)(3).
Limited Coastwise (Not more than 20 miles from a harbor of safe refuge).	(a) wood vsls in cold water. (i) 67% IBA—§ 180.205(a)(1). (ii) w/subdivision—100% LF—§ 180.205(a)(2). (b) nonwood vessels in cold water—100% LF—§ 180.205(b). (c) within three miles of shore—§ 180.205(d). (A) w/o subdivision—100% LF. (B) w/subdivision—50% LF. (C) w/float free 406 MHz EPIRB—50% LF. (d) vessels operating in warm water. (i) 50% LF—§ 180.205(c). (ii) within three miles of shore. (A) w/o subdivision—50% LF—§ 180.205(e)(1). (B) w/subdivision—NONE—§ 180.205(e)(2). (C) w/float free 406 MHz EPIRB—NONE—§ 180.205(e)(3).
Great Lakes	(a) same as Limited Coastwise (a) & (b)—§ 180.206(a). (b) within one mile of shore—NONE ⁵ —§ 180.206(b).
Lakes, Bays, & Sounds ^{6,7}	(a) wood vsls in cold water. (i) 100% LF—§ 180.207(a)(1). (ii) w/subdivision—50% LF—§ 180.207(a)(2). (b) nonwood—50% LF—§ 180.207(b). (c) within 1 mile of shore—NONE—§ 180.207(e). (d) warm water—NONE—§ 180.207(c).
RIVERS ^{7,8}	(a) cold water. (i) w/o subdivision—50% LF—§ 180.208(a)(1). (ii) w/subdivision—NONE—§ 180.208(a)(2). (iii) within one mile of shore—NONE—§ 180.208(d). (b) warm water—NONE—§ 180.208(b).

Abbreviations used:

ILR=Inflatable liferaft

IBA=Inflatable Buoyant Apparatus

LF=Life Float. As allowed by § 180.15(b) any buoyant apparatus in use on an existing vessel on March 11, 1996, may be used to meet the requirements for LF as long as the buoyant apparatus is in good and serviceable condition.

Footnotes:

¹ Cold water means the cognizant OCM has determined the monthly mean low temperature of the water is ≤15 °C (59 °F).

² Vessels ≤65 ft carrying ≤49 passengers built before March 11, 2001, may meet the collision bulkhead standards in § 179.310 and one-compartment subdivision standards in §§ 179.220 and 179.320 at least in way of the engine room and lazarette in lieu of the subdivision requirements contained in this part.

³Warm water means the cognizant OCMI has determined the monthly mean low temperature of the water is >15 °C (59 °F).

⁴Vessels operating in warm water may substitute 100% LF in lieu of 67% IBA—§ 180.202(d).

⁵OCMI may reduce primary lifesaving for seasonal or ferry type operations on the Great Lakes—§ 180.206(b).

⁶Shallow water exception—§ 180.207(e).

⁷OCMI may reduce survival craft requirements based upon the route, communications schedule and participation in VTS—§ 180.207(f) and § 180.208(e).

⁸Shallow water exception—§ 180.208(e)C.

[CGD 85-080, 61 FR 975, Jan. 10, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 51357, Sept. 30, 1997; USCG-2012-0832, 77 FR 59789, Oct. 1, 2012]

§ 180.202 Survival craft—vessels operating on oceans routes.

(a) Each vessel certificated to operate on an oceans route in cold water must either:

(1) Be provided with inflatable buoyant apparatus of an aggregate capacity that will accommodate at least 100% of the total number of persons permitted on board; or

(2) Meet either the standards for collision bulkheads in §179.310 in this chapter or §171.085 in subchapter S of this chapter, and the standards for subdivision in §§179.220 and 179.320 of this chapter, or the standards for subdivision and damaged stability in §§171.070 through 171.073 and 171.080 in subchapter S of this chapter, as appropriate, and be provided with life floats of an aggregate capacity that will accommodate at least 100% of the total number of persons permitted on board.

(b) Each vessel certificated to operate on an oceans route in warm water must either:

(1) Be provided with inflatable buoyant apparatus of an aggregate capacity that will accommodate at least 67% of the total number of persons permitted on board; or

(2) Be provided with life floats of an aggregate capacity that will accommodate at least 100% of the total number of persons permitted on board.

§ 180.204 Survival craft—vessels operating on coastwise routes.

(a) Except as allowed by paragraph (c) of this section, each vessel constructed of wood certificated to operate on a coastwise route in cold water must either:

(1) Be provided with inflatable buoyant apparatus of an aggregate capacity that will accommodate at least 67% of the total number of persons permitted on board; or

(2) Meet either the standards for collision bulkheads in §179.310 of this chapter or §171.085 in subchapter S of this chapter and the standards for subdivision in §§179.220 and 179.320 of this chapter, or the standards for subdivision and damaged stability in §§171.070 through 171.073 and 171.080 in subchapter S of this chapter, as appropriate, and be provided with life floats of an aggregate capacity that will accommodate at least 100% of the total number of persons permitted on board.

(b) Each vessel constructed of a material other than wood certificated to operate on a coastwise route in cold water must be provided with life floats of an aggregate capacity that will accommodate at least 100% of the total number of persons permitted on board.

(c) Except as allowed by paragraph (d) of this section, each vessel certificated to operate on a coastwise route in warm water must be provided with life floats of an aggregate capacity that will accommodate at least 100% of the total number of persons permitted on board.

(d) Each vessel certificated to operate on a coastwise route within three miles of land must either:

(1) Be provided with life floats of an aggregate capacity that will accommodate at least 100% of the total number of persons permitted on board; or

(2) Meet either the standards for collision bulkheads in §179.310 of this subchapter or §171.085 in subchapter S of this chapter, and the standards for subdivision in §§179.220 and 179.320 of this chapter, or the standards for subdivision and damaged stability in §§171.070 through 171.073 and 171.080 in subchapter S of this chapter, as appropriate, and be provided with life floats of an aggregate capacity that will accommodate at least 50% of the total number of persons permitted on board.

(3) Have on board a FCC Type Accepted Category 1 406 MHz EPIRB, installed